ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Good Start, Grow Smart Task Force has been led by the South Carolina Department of Education, Office of Early Childhood. The Task Force would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the following individuals who participated in the work of the task force including the development of the South Carolina Early Learning Standards.

Task Force Members

- Dr. Linda Mims, SC Department of Education, Chairperson
- Robin McCants, SC Department of Education, Director, Office of Early Childhood
- Leigh Bolick, SC Department of Social Services
- Mary Lynne Diggs, SC Head Start Collaboration Office
- Beverly Hunter, SC Department of Social Services, Child Care Services
- Millie McDonald, SC Center for Child Care Career Development
- Cynthia Breymeyer, SC Department of Social Services
- Robert Bridges, Iswa Children, Youth and Families
- Donna Davies, SC Center for Child Care Career Development
- Nan Ford, Voices for South Carolina Children
- Saundra Ground, SC Department of Social Services, Child Care Services
- Mickie Jennings, The Sunshine House, Inc.
- Linda Jones, SC Department of Social Services, Child Care Services
- Phyllis Langley, Kilbourne Park Baptist Child Development Center
- Gayle Morris, Pee Dee Education Foundation
- Rita Paul, SC Department of Social Services
- Ann Pfeiffer, SC Center for Child Care Career Development
- Debra Session, SC Office of First Steps to School Readiness/ Department of Social Services
- Tamala Toney, SC Office of First Steps to School Readiness/ Department of Social Services
- Dr. Diane Willis, SC Department of Education, Office of Early Childhood Education

Writing Teams

- Cynthia Breymeyer, SC Department of Social Services
- Donna Davies, SC Center for Child Care Career Development
- Saundra Ground, SC Department of Social Services, Child Care Services
- Mickie Jennings, The Sunshine House Child, Inc.
- Gayle Morris, Pee Dee Education Foundation
- Ann Pfeiffer, SC Center for Child Care Career Development
- Robin McCants, SC Department of Education, Director, Office of Early Childhood Education
- Tamala Toney, SC First Steps to School Readiness/Department of Social Services

External Reviewers

The Task Force would like to extend its gratitude to the following experts who reviewed the standards from various lenses:

- Dr. Gay Clement-Atkinson, University of South Carolina School of Medicine (Inclusion of children of differing abilities)
- Dr. Doris Blazer, Professor Emeritus Furman University (Early childhood education)
- Dr. M. Evelyn Fields, South Carolina State University (Diversity)
- Dr. Herman Knopf, University of South Carolina (Early childhood education)

Draft August 2005

The South Carolina Early Learning Standards were created in compliance with NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND legislation in a collaborative partnership between South Carolina Department of Education, South Carolina Department of Social Services, Head Start Collaboration Office, and the South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness. They were written to align with the existing South Carolina Department of Education Standards for grades 4K through twelve and the Head Start Performance Standards.